

MAINE FARMER

AND JOURNAL OF THE USEFUL ARTS.

BY WILLIAM NOYES & CO.]

"Our Home, Our Country, and Our Brother Man."

[E. HOLMES, Editor.]

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THE FARMER.

WINTHROP, FRIDAY MORNING, JULY 3, 1835.

Floyd's Russet, Baldwin Apple, &c.

Our friend Peine Wingate, of Hallowell, handed us on the 23d, three or four apples of the Russet variety, of which he gave us the following history. Half a century ago a Mr. Floyd who had settled in Hallowell, planted some seed of the Black Russet—so called. One of them produced a variety of Russet which had a good flavor, was about the size of the parent apple, but the skin was of a lighter color. It also had a knob or projection on the top near the stem. It was planted in a pasture and grew there for a long time. Some years ago Mr. Wingate passing by it and seeing that it was in a decaying state, concluded to prolong the variety of the apple by taking scions from it. This he did, and set them in one of the trees which he had at home. The produce of this scion, however, varied somewhat from the original Floyd. It was somewhat smoother, and had lost the characteristic knob.—Afterwards he took a scion from this scion and set in another tree, when lo! the apples produced from this last scion were in all respects like the Floyd from which they were first taken—having the knob or projection and all other peculiarities of that apple. This proves that vegetables like animals, will sometimes breed back, or in other words, that some of the progeny will inherit some of the characteristics of their ancestors two or three generations back. This was also exemplified by Mr. Knight of England, when he began to *manufacture* new varieties of Peas, and although many of you may know the story, you will excuse us for telling it to those who do not.

When he first began his experiments on the crossing of vegetables, he selected out a dwarfish stunted kind of grey pea, that could not be much improved by good culture, or good soil. Previous to its opening its blossoms, he cut off all but half a dozen. These he opened carefully, and cut from them the part called the stamens leaving the pistil, or thread like column which rises from the seed vessel untouched. He then left them. They afterwards opened like other blossoms, as if nothing had happened to them. He then took some of the pollen or yellow dust from the flowers of a tall luxuriant pea, and put upon three of the flowers which had been robbed of their stamens. The half dozen flowers then put out their pods as usual, but the peas in the three that had not been dusted with the pollen perished, withering away, and produced nothing; while those that had received a sprinkling

of pollen produced full grown peas. They were of a grey color and very much like those of the stock experimented upon. The next spring he planted these peas and then the good effects of the crossing were exhibited. They grew up large, the peas were neither like the grey pea or the other, but intermediate—and of an excellent kind. Hence we see that if we have a plant or animal from crossings of two distinct breeds, and they do not exhibit or possess the qualities of the parents which we desire, their progeny may, and it is best to wait patiently until we see the results in more than one generation.

Some remarks made by Mr. Wingate respecting the wood of the Baldwin apple were highly interesting. He states that the wood of the Non Pareille apple is very close and hard, and is seldom or never killed by the winter, while the wood of the Baldwin apple is softer, and more open or spongy or porous, and often feels the effects of the winter. It will be recollected that the winter of 1831 and 2 was a severe one for fruit trees. Three trees belonging to Mr. W. exhibited, the next spring very different appearances. The three trees were all in the same kind of soil and equally exposed. The first tree was half Bellflower and half Baldwin. This was not killed at all. The second tree had one scion of the Russet pearmain in it, and was partially killed. The third was all Baldwin and it was entirely killed.

The second one he saved by cutting off all the top within four or five inches of the trunk,—and it started out again.

He purposes to try the following plan for the purpose of hardening the wood of the Baldwin. First to engraft the Baldwin into the Non Pareille, and after it has grown awhile engraft scions from this back into another, and by thus changing back and forward, or from one which has a close and hard wood, and thence into another more spongy or open, to toughen or harden the wood without changing the fruit. The theory is plausible, and perhaps practice will establish it as true.

Wool.

This article is at present in good demand, and the average price for full blood Merino, is, at present 50 cents. To this price there is no objection either on the part of the seller or buyer. Last week there was a *flurry* among the *specs*, and wool came up to 60 cents, and some lots went for more. To this there were no objections, we presume, on the part of those who obtained it; nor would there have been any on either side had circumstances warranted and held it steady. But this was not the case, and we deem it a damage to all parties to get up momentary excitements of this kind. It creates dissatisfaction, and makes fluctuation and uncertainty in the business, while it is a damage to all concerned. What is most needed among wool growers is a steady and fixed price, and not one that is dancing up and down, not from any causes connected with the manufacture, but solely from the spirit of rivalry or something worse among the speculators in this article. If our wool growers are

wise they will continue their exertions to endeavor to regulate this business until it becomes as steady and as little liable to change as any article whatever in the market. Then and not till then will wool growing become a firm and fair business, and a man may as safely calculate upon his investments in it as in any other business, and Maine raise herself to no small degree of independence from this article alone.

Put in the Turnips.

We gave a hint upon this subject not long since and we now renew it. And we renew it because from present appearances we shall not have an exceedingly great crop of Hay. Our old fields are thin of grass, and our new ones are not very tall. The crop must be late—and although showers may probably fall and increase it, yet it will be prudent to cast about you, and devise means to make up the deficiency which will undoubtedly occur. Your Ruta Baga's we hope are already in. The English or flat turnip offers itself as the "next on the docket," and would it not be well to pour them pretty abundantly? They are easily raised, and a valuable article for young cattle, cows, oxen, and sometimes Horses. We say sometimes, for they will not always eat them. We hope this jogging your elbows will not be in vain.

Eastern Magazine.

A monthly magazine with this title, published in Bangor by John S. Carter, Esq., edited by Mrs. M. P. Carter, has been received. We are both glad and sorry to see it. Glad to find that there is both talent and spirit sufficient in those of the "Eastern Climate," to get up such a thing filled with so good matter, and executed in so good style.—But—We are a yankee born and a yankee bred, and must have our "But." But we are sorry because we doubt if two literary Magazines can be supported here as literary Magazines ought to be—and if not, surely the first occupant (the Portland,) has the strongest claims. We trust however the fair Editors will not "pull caps" about it, but go on harmoniously and may success bring forth satisfaction, and "marrow, and fatness," and happiness to both of them.

The Eastern Magazine may be examined at our office—by those who wish to subscribe, "but" hark ye, we can't have it read there, for no earthly reason but the saving of your own coppers.

For the Maine Farmer.

NORTH AMERICA, May 30th, 1835.

Ruta Baga.

FRIEND HOLMES:—Sir, As it is a long time since I told you the story about the Hops, and fearing you may forget me, I have concluded to venture to send you another communication.

A writer in your paper signed Wayne, on the subject of Ruta Baga, has induced me to tell you a little of my experience for two months past, for I dare not say spring. Last summer I raised quite a lot of Ruta Baga, and put them into my cellar and said nothing about them, as also I raised hay, oats, potatoes and wheat enough for me and mine, for I find our farmers are off every year to New York

to mill at the very time of year when they ought to be at home putting in their crops; and if we have to go so far to mill and spend so much time, we cannot expect to raise our own food for us and ours. I fear you may think I have strayed from my subject, and I will come right to it. Well, as I said, I had enough for me—it was soon found out during the fore part of April: cattle began to die in this quarter for want of something to eat, and as my neighbours knew I had some hay and oats, and being withal a little conscientious about making my neighbor's necessity my opportunity, my house was thronged with people calling in to see me, and they were so good natured, so kind and obliging, I could not help asking them to the barn to see my stock. The moment I opened the door they would exclaim, what a large quantity of hay you have for your stock! as if that was their object. So after talking over the common affairs of the times, and just as they were about to take their leave, as I thought, they would exclaim with an interjection, O, I want to buy some of your hay; and they would use all the arguments of a wooden clock pedlar to gain their point. As I had been told by them, I had more than I could use, I at last would say, you may have a few hundred—and then they would come with their teams, and when I had put on a few hundred, they were not contented with nothing less than half a ton—then they would have some of my oats to go with the hay or that would do no good. Of course, I would let them have four or five bushels, and just as they got fairly out of the barn, they would look over their shoulders and say, O, I will call and pay you for this some time. After my hay, oats and wheat was all gone, too late I found what they came for. As none of them have called yet to pay me, I will tell you how I managed to get along. I took a basket and went down cellar and got a lot of Ruta Baga and gave my cattle every day since, and have a lot on hand at this time, and am giving them to my cows, and they pay me well. Notwithstanding I have got nothing for my hay, wheat and oats, I am not troubled at all with visitors since my hay, wheat and oats have been gone. I am busy raising more Ruta Baga.

A YANKEE.

*For the Maine Farmer.***Smut in Grain, &c.—No. I.**

MR. HOLMES:—Having established, to my own satisfaction at least, the powerful agency of fermentation in producing a state of disease in wheat, as well as other grain plants, and expressed as I believe clearly my views on this important subject, in connection with the disease of rust in wheat, I propose now to take a view of this subject as connected with other diseases in grain generally; and as smut seems to be a prominent one, it is probable my remarks will chiefly apply to it. And here I remark that I do not introduce this subject because I profess to understand it, even imperfectly, but because I wish to. And should I be as successful in pursuing this enquiry as I heretofore have been in my enquiries on the subject of rust, I shall not regret the pains. I say successful, because, although many writers treat explicitly on the deleterious effects of high manuring in raising grain, no one that I have read throws much light on this subject. Some have supposed its injurious effects originated from the profuse flow of sap it occasioned in the vessels of plants, thus causing them to burst, and flow out on the stalks and leaves, and produce rust. Forsyth speaking of fruit trees, says he has seen trees or branches of some considerable size burst from this cause. This idea seems to have been a

peculiar favorite with many. Some indeed have adopted it with different modifications, but all that I have examined miss the most material fact, the disorganizing effects produced by too rapid fermentation on the roots of grain plants. How this produces an effect on other vegetation is not a subject of enquiry now.

Here then we may just as well stop and examine our foundation as not; dismissing our learned as well as unlearned guides, and study simple nature one summer season. Not but what I believe some are useful in investigating this subject, when employed in its proper place. But the fact is, this subject has by some means got encumbered with so much rubbish, it will take some time to clear it away.

To accomplish so desirable an object is one reason why I have introduced this subject so early in the season, as I find many inquisitive minds awake on this subject: that while I am treating occasionally on this subject, others may watch the progress of vegetation, and test by actual observation the correctness of my statements or inferences. And in this business the most unlearned, the humblest farmer may perform an essential service. I do then most earnestly solicit your cooperation. If your productions are knotty, Mr. Editor, will knock them off most cheerfully I dare say.

This subject I plainly foresee, to render it any justice will take some time, and as some of my communications may be too lengthy to suit short winded readers; I wish you, Mr. Editor, to divide them to suit the taste and convenience of your readers. And should any one find any thing he does not readily understand, only just intimate his wishes in the Farmer, and I will most cheerfully explain. No one need be in the least afraid of getting into any altercation with me in the Farmer, for this is business which I despise. If I give a joke, I will take one, and there, at least with me, the matter will end.

J. H. J.

Peru, May 1835.

*For the Maine Farmer.***On Agricultural Accounts.**

MR. HOLMES:—However pernicious an idle habit may be, so far as the labor of the hands is concerned, I much doubt whether intellectual idleness is not much more so. It is true mere ideal speculation is of little use at any time, and is often injurious, it being only the busy workings of fancy put in motion by that unbounded curiosity, and love of excitement so natural to the human mind. This disposition to gratify fancy is a serious obstacle to improvement in the pursuit of knowledge, especially in agriculture, where we are so likely to be deceived by appearances resulting from so many combined causes, frequently blended together in producing some one single effect. But often I believe a lazy mental habit has something to do in this. It is so much easier to "guess" than it is to qualify our selves to judge correctly, that we frequently make a hasty decision which in fact is the merest guess work. Now it is evident in the pursuit of knowledge, in economizing many subjects we cannot have the advantage of mathematical demonstration; and in the study of agriculture this is eminently the case. This, however, should not deter us from introducing them wherever practicable.

It has been said, "Maine is a good stock and grazing country, but we never can raise our own bread." Now I admit, the question whether we can raise breadstuff and how much does not depend on mathematical calculation. But it is a fact that some farmers whose means are not the best do raise

enough and to spare. Why then cannot others? Certainly they may by the same or better management; yet a question then remains of vital importance to the farmer, which is, all things considered, the most profitable. This can only be determined by mathematical calculation founded on accurate accounts, by which the cost of rearing different kinds of stock and crops can be ascertained and compared. Until this is done nothing certain can be known. That some men may thrive better, who raise much stock, than their neighbors who raise more breadstuff, may be true, and yet not determine this point.

The acquisition of property depends on a combination of circumstances so various, that evidence of this kind cannot be decisive. But there is a way by which this may be done, and this is by keeping correct farming accounts. By this a farmer might be able to determine how much each kind of produce costs him a bushel, and how much the expense of rearing each horse, sheep, ox, cow, and the relative profit of each.

Now I don't believe one farmer in a thousand, knows any thing about this. No, not one in a thousand, not even excepting the sage author of the sentiment we quoted, respecting the capacity of Maine for raising stock and bread stuff. What superstructure then of real excellence can be built on such a miserable, sandy foundation? It is high time to begin to look into these things. The farmers of Maine have as much "mother wit," as any people in the world, all that is wanting is to make a good use of it. Many a one might shine as a star of the first magnitude by using one half the ingenuity directed to some useful subject of investigation, which has hitherto been employed in devising means to "hook" pine logs, shaving notes, or cheating their neighbors in some more honorable way.

I have adverted to the comparative profit of raising stock and bread stuff, as a proper subject to be determined by calculation; but this is only one among a thousand. We want to know the comparative profit of the different crops we cultivate, whether for food for man or beast. We want to know the comparative profit of the different kinds of stock we raise, and also the comparative cost of keeping them in different kinds of food, separately or mixed. Indeed the subject is of such extensive use and application, I must dismiss it for the present, hoping some one, at least, will be benefitted by it.

Peru, June, 1835.

J. H. J.

*For the Maine Farmer.***Oats.**

MR. HOLMES:—I am aware that not a few of the farmers in my vicinity apprehend that raising Oats on land tends to exhaust it, and that grass and other crops will not flourish and grow as well on such land as though wheat or some other grain had been raised in lieu of oats. I cannot see why it is so, and I write this with doubts of the fact. Will some one who believes it explain through the Farmer the cause. If true, I should think it of consequence to the farming interest that it should be known. I believe it certain that less weight is taken from the soil where oats grow, than where wheat or most other grain grows. ENQUIRER.

For the Maine Farmer.

MR. HOLMES:—Suppose we farmers should keep an account current with a Calf, and as he cannot overlook it, let us be careful not to charge him too high, something like the following, to wit:

Dr. to six quarts of milk per day for ten weeks at 1 cent per quart	\$4.50
Pasturage and risk first summer	.50

Nearly half-ton of hay first winter, best,	3,00
Pasturage and risk 2d summer, and taxes	1,17
Hay second winter	4,00
Pasturage, risk and taxes 3d summer	2,00

	\$15,27
Cr. by sale at 2 1-2 years old, the average price	\$11,00
	\$4,27

Thus it will be seen, that allowing the manure to be worth his tending, the farmer loses \$4,27 each, and should he raise many it must beggar him. Had we not better raise a smaller number, keep them better, and of course they will bring more. If we keep choice breeds, always avoid selling them until they are fully matured; and no longer let it be said by the farmers in Massachusetts, that they can purchase a two years old creature coming from Maine for what they procure for a *veal calf* at six weeks old—none ought ever to be killed younger.

EXPERIENCE.

From the New York Farmer.

Profit and best Varieties of Poultry.

MR. FLEET,—I observe in the January number of the Farmer for 1835 a communication from L., requesting from me information on poultry. It is a branch of rural economy I but seldom see introduced in the pages of the Farmer, and though I acknowledge it is one of minor importance, yet I do not think it so insignificant as to be entirely unworthy of attention, for a very little care will supply in abundance those very essential articles in domestic cookery, new-laid eggs, and these too, in the middle of winter, when most people's fowls are shivering on the bare tree tops, or moping about for a warm corner. Hardy as the common dunghill fowls are, they cannot suffer this neglect and furnish the egg-basket all the time. If L., or any other of your readers, wish to have eggs, and those in plenty all the year round, they must provide a warm house for them, where they can have screen and shelter summer and winter. In bad weather the doors of the fowl-house should be closed, and the fowls confined, plenty of clean water often renewed, plenty of good food, the house kept clean, and then we may calculate on plenty of eggs. I think I hear the reader draw a long breath at all this; but pray, consider, is it such a dreadful trouble; ten minutes or less per diem will tend 200 fowls. In this manner, allowing ten hens to one cock, there would be eighteen cocks and one hundred and eighty hens; now these ought to produce an average of 90 eggs each in the year. This is giving them 9 months holiday. Now then, we ought to have 16,380 eggs, which at 2 cents each would make \$327 60; and I would keep them till they did fetch this. Suppose they only sell for half the money, surely this would pay for a few Albany boards, and a little time, or even if the boards were thought too expensive, faggots of cedar brush, and a little straw would answer; these any handy man would soon form into a warm house; a few poles for perches, and a few places for nests, would complete the job. They will find all or a great part of their own food from May to November, and clear the land of grasshoppers, grubs, and other destructive insects, and by having for them a yard or enclosure communicating with the fowl-house, and with one wing clipped, they many be secured from injuring crops at seed time and harvest. There are other modes of making poultry profitable as well as by their eggs; but as I have treated the subject at length in my "Cottage Comforts," I shall now only briefly recapitulate two or three varieties, for without a good stock no certain calculation can be made. The common or "*Dung Hill Fowl*" need scarcely a remark; they are to be seen every where, of all colors and shapes, and having been so crossed in breeding, no dependence can be placed upon the stock; even if by chance one turns out an excellent layer, the good quality may end with her. The position set forth in our glorious constitution, "that all men are born equal," is certainly not applicable to our poultry yard—here almost every thing depends on the careful selection and continuing the stock; and in furnishing mine, I would not only take care to obtain the exact likeness, but endeavor

to ascertain if it came from similar birds for previous generations. On a farm where several varieties are kept, it is almost impossible to preserve any particular breed true. I have known much disappointment ensue from inattention to this particular. Recently an acquaintance of mine purchased a stock of *Poland Fowls*, and disposed of all his others. They were very handsome, perfectly black, having the King David's crown, and large white top-knot; but behold, all the season not one perfect individual has been hatched; many came out speckled, some perfectly white, some with scarcely any top-knot; and instead of finding the old hens everlasting layers, they appear to be everlastingly barren. Probably an indiscriminate collection would produce as many eggs as the same number of any selected variety without due care, but as the most worthless consume as much food, and require as much care as the best, it will surely be better to feed and protect good layers of large eggs, and provide something more for the table than head, neck, and legs. Well-bred *Poland* fowls combine all these advantages, particularly the plentiful production of large eggs. Indeed, such is their propensity for laying, that they will not always sit; and it is usual to hatch their eggs under other fowls. Observe, these fowls ought to have a peculiar spiked comb, and five toes on each foot. Game fowls lay very early in the season, when eggs are scarce and valuable, make good mothers, and may be kept to rear the young *Polanders*. The large *Malay* are much in request; they attain an enormous size, and when dressed look more like a turkey than a chicken. My experience will not permit me to say much for their laying quality; possibly a cross with these would make an eligible variety. The white *Dorking* are a fine description of fowls, full sized, large long body, short legs, excellent layers and nurses, but they are very scarce; they should have the fifth toe. The grotesque little *Bantam* will produce a very large quantity of eggs, and taking size and consumption of food into consideration, will, perhaps, after all, be found the most profitable in this particular. I am not prepared to say where fowls may be had, I have none to spare; a market purchase is hazardous, but perhaps at present the only chance. I am preparing to hatch some artificially, and may have a few *Polands* and *Dorkings* to spare next fall.

D. F. AMES.

P. S.—Barley and buckwheat ought to be given, with cracked corn, and gravel or sand.

From the New York Farmer.

Agricultural Schools.

One of the greatest services that could be rendered to society in the United States, would be the establishment of Schools where city youth might be educated for the occupation of agriculturists—from whence they might be sent forth, not to prey upon the ignorance and credulity of the community—to spread mischief and litigation through the country—nor with the potent aid of the lancet and calomel jar, licensed to thin out our scanty population—but with the forms and souls of men, who know how to earn an honest subsistence from the fertile soil that lies ready to reward their labor.

Let us consider the immense number of youth springing up in the shade of our larger towns, where, like vegetation in cellars, they stretch their limbs in lank, fibreless imbecility: how many are doomed to the ignoble task of hanging over counter to chaffer with females—about the price and quality of their under-garments—simpering falsehoods till they unlearn the virtue of truth.

Behold the multitudes who seek the ever yawning portal of ruin,—the glistening bar-room! with its liquid poison gleaming serpent-like on the unwary eye—see them, their brains inflamed to madness, rushing to the hidden haunts of vice,—the gaming table and the brothel! Then if the heart fail not from the sickening view, or if, perchance, necessity, and the close bonds of friendship, brotherhood, or dearer ties compel,—witness the early bloated, blighted, ruined victim, sink through the tottering stages of an accursed state, till the grave seems almost too pure for such a thing!

When the scene closes, and the eye rests on the pale, stricken form of the fond parent, whose countenance the quick flash of mental agony is desolating—then shudder! and ask yourself if there is no remedy for causes that lead to so much misery.

When will people learn to shake off their foolish

vanity, and yield to the dreadful dictates of experience, if not to those of common sense?

Suppose a proportion of our city-born boys were sent, on approaching the age of puberty, to an Agricultural School—where a considerable part of their time might be occupied in the field or garden, performing such light tasks, under the eye of kind instructors, as their strength will allow—let them be taught all the knowledge commonly imparted at schools, but instead of confining them 10 or 12 hours bent over a desk in a close-pent noisome room, say half that time were appropriated to books, and the remainder to the combined pursuits of healthful vigor, and the practical acquirement of the noblest profession man can follow. How easy and natural seem the means, by such a course, to provide for a large numbers of our youth.

After training them through the dangerous years approaching manhood, instructing them in all the knowledge necessary for an enlightened practical agriculturist—inuring them to toil, and fixing in their hearts principles of political and religious truth. Send them forth; they, with the aid of parents and friends, and with the facilities offered in the boundless fertile regions beyond us, might immediately assume the station of reputable citizens—owners of the soil, cultivated with skill and economy. How great the blessing such a prospect offers!

Many institutions have lately been established combining manual labor with intellectual improvement, and apparently with the happiest results. Philanthropists in Europe and America have made the experiment suggested here, even among the barren rocks of Switzerland, with wonderful success.

One of the great advantages connected with Agricultural Schools, would be their economy; enabling persons of very moderate means to obtain their benefits; for the labor of the pupils, being well directed, would produce, not only all the sustenance required for the consumption of the establishment, but a surplus, which might be appropriated to the compensation of teachers, and to contingent expenses.

Whether the desideratum in question is to be obtained by the co-operation of many, in the form of Societies, for the promotion of such an object, or by the concentrated energies of some gifted individual, who might offer a model for others, or by whatever means, must be a subject for future consideration.

Oberlin and Pestolozzi were men claiming no rank among the great spirits of the last age; they were humble philanthropists, whose heads and hearts were full of the benevolent purpose of raising those around them from a degraded state of suffering and ignorance, to a condition worthy of intelligent beings. Such men are to be found every where; once give the subject an impulse, and those will not be wanting who can accomplish the object in view, and satisfy the wants of society.

That Agricultural Schools, such as are here suggested, are a source of great advantage, unappreciated, as yet, in America, and peculiarly adapted to our wants, must be obvious to every reflecting mind. If this hint—by no means offered as an original one—shall be of the slightest service in awakening public solicitude on this deeply interesting subject, the writer will have gladly submitted his crude periods to the eye of the intelligent reader.

CIVIS.

Loss of Sheep.—The unusual cold weather for a few days past has caused the death, probably, of some thousands of sheep in this vicinity. Many farmers in this town, we learn, have lost 20, 25, and 30, and we have heard of no one but what has suffered more or less who have sheared. In Castleton, Clarendon and Pittsford we learn that the losses are still greater. One farmer in Castleton has lost 70 or 80; some in Clarendon, between 30 and 40. It was feared that vegetation had suffered very much, but on inquiry we do not learn that it has—not having any frosty weather, but wet and cold.

Rutland, Vermont Herald.

The last St. Petersburg Agricultural Journal contains an interesting article relative to the draining of the marshy ground in the neighborhood of St. Petersburg, by the labors of an Englishman named Wheeler. The work was commenced in 1818, in consequence of the Emperor Alexander having witnessed the highly cultivated state of the neighborhood of London.

From the New York Farmer.

Breeds of Cattle.—No. I.

In the system, or rather want of system, which has hitherto attended the agriculture of this country; when every man instead of doing *that which was right in his own eyes*, did just as he had seen his father do, that same republican spirit, which is one of the main pillars in our national liberty—estimating every man according to his own worth, regardless of his pedigree,—has been carried a little too far, by extending it to cattle and other brute animals, which constitute a part of the property of the farmer, and in which pedigree is evidently of some importance. The farmers in this country, (if they could be called farmers,) appeared to have no idea that any hereditary improvements could be effected in any species of animal. They knew a cow was a cow, and a horse was a horse, and they also knew the old adage that 'a good cow might have a bad calf,' and they therefore thought the reverse of the position was true also; and whichever of the two took place, they imputed it the hand of Providence and not to any circumstance which it was in their power to control.

But the opinions of mankind are in this respect like a pendulum; when they find themselves on one side of the truth, in their zeal to correct the error, they generally err as far on the other side; and still like the pendulum, they often oscillate from side to side, till the gravitating power of reason brings them at rest in the centre. And so, in some measure, it will doubtless happen in this case. Many gentlemen, whose opportunities had informed them that there were breeds of cattle in other parts of the world, which, though of the same species as our own, possessed qualities far superior to them, and have therefore gone to great expense in importing them, and who, to remunerate themselves for the expense, and no doubt also with patriotic views of benefitting the public, are selling the increase from these improved breeds of cattle at high, but not exorbitant prices, considering the expense and trouble of introducing them.

Respecting the real value of these cattle to the economical agriculturist, there are two opposite opinions, and probably, as already suggested, truth lies between them. A portion of the public, who are proud of possessing extraordinary things, and fond of novelty, and who trust the opinions and follow the example of others rather than reason for themselves, suppose that these cattle will almost insure them inexhaustible wealth, and that they will not only never deteriorate in quality, but that they will always command the same price as at present. Another set of people, and perhaps far the most numerous, believe the same old breed of oxen which composed the sturdy teams of their fathers, and the same race of cows, on the milk of which they were brought up, are good enough for them; and that all the pretended improvements are a mere trick, calculated either for show or for speculation.

If these opinions are both errors, as they doubtless are, the first is by far the most harmless; for, if a few persons, actuated by a laudable enthusiasm in the spirit of improvement, should so far overstep the line which cold prudence would dictate, as even to incur some slight loss, that loss would generally fall on those who are able to bear it, and the country would be absolutely benefitted; while the opposite opinion would produce no good, but might produce negative evil, by preventing useful improvements. We consider it therefore a duty to cherish and assist, as far as in our power, the spirit of improvement in the breeds of useful animals.

The first question, then, which the subject presents is, by what means, and to what extent such improvements can be effected, and how far their permanent continuance can be depended on. We blend these three points together, because they are so intimately connected by nature, that it is almost impossible to consider them separately.

Let us take a view of the subject as nature and art present it, in its two opposite extremes. The cow must have been once a wild and savage animal. Whether she was domesticated from the American buffalo, or from some other wild beast, we have no means of knowing, with certainty, nor could the knowledge be of much use; we can only know her domestication must have been long anterior to any historical records we can ever obtain. But as the cow and the buffalo propagate in any cross, we may naturally conclude them to be of one

species, and that the difference has been effected by domestication, conducted by art, with different degrees of skill. To see, then, how far nature can be improved by art, let us compare the two animals together. In the one case, the wild and shaggy buffalo, with eyes of fierceness, and frame formed for combining force with unrestrained agility—calculated to bound ever hills and dash through forests and thickets—of little use to mankind, except to the savage hunter, almost in a corresponding degree wild and uncivilized. Compare with this the domestic cow, the mother and source of a train of our richest comfort, with eyes beaming with mildness, apparently sympathizing with our social wants and seeming only to want the power of speech to express her gratitude for the favors she receives, and for which she not only richly pays through her life, but with interest at her death. Instead of affording milk barely sufficient to support her own young while their nature requires it, she furnishes a supply, not only for her own offspring, but for ours and ourselves, almost unlimited as to quantity and duration. Her shaggy hair has become fine, short, and silky, and the proportion of her form so changed as to increase the quantity of her flesh in those parts where it is most valuable, and diminish it where it is less so. When we contemplate, in different specimens of neat cattle the different degrees to which these improvements have been carried, we are led to doubt whether the summit of improvement has yet been reached, and ardently to wish to see them become more general. To awaken the attention and excite the energy of the agricultural community in a cause of such importance, it becomes necessary that every farmer should know, and be thoroughly acquainted with, the names, the distinctive forms and properties, and also the comparative and absolute values of all the different breeds, and that he should know the modes of treatment, and other causes which produced them. To promote this object we shall give here, and in our succeeding numbers, such knowledge as we possess, or have the means of obtaining respecting the different breeds of cattle, both national and sectional, embracing the circumstances and causes which have produced and stamped their respective characters; with such facts as shall lead to a correct estimate of their comparative value, accompanied in most cases by handsome wood engravings of each peculiar breed.

The honest homebred farmer, who has never learned from natural history the vast varieties exhibited among animals of the same species, and whose knowledge of cattle is confined to his own stock and that of his neighbors, would be astonished on becoming acquainted with the cattle of different quarters of the earth, or even with different nations in the same quarter. We would be no less surprised to find the different uses which are made of them in different parts of the world—to find them in central and southern Africa and parts of Asia made use of to ride on, and even where speed is required, to carry dispatches, and that in long and rapid travelling they outdo the horses; nor would it be less unfamiliar to see cows yoked to the plough, in Hindostan and in parts of Africa. We will now intermix with our remarks some extracts connected with the subject, chiefly from a work on *Cattle*, written and published in England, under the superintendence of the SOCIETY FOR THE DIFFUSION OF USEFUL KNOWLEDGE.

Major Denham, in his travels into Central Africa, gives the following amusing description of these excursions, (the riding on cattle.)

"The beasts of burden used by the inhabitants, are the bullock and the ass. A fine breed of the latter are found in the Mandara vallies. The bullock is the bearer of all the grain and other articles to and from the markets. A small saddle of plaited rushes is laid on him, when sacks made of goat skins, and filled with corn, are lashed on his broad and able back. A leather thong is passed through the cartilage of his nose, and serves a bridle, while on the top of the load is mounted the owner, his wife, or his slave. Sometimes the daughter or the wife of a rich Shouaa will be mounted on her particular bullock, and precede the loaded animals, extravagantly adorned with amber, silver rings, corals and all sorts of finery; her hair streaming with fat, and a rim of black copal, at least an inch wide, round each of her eyes, and I may say arranged for conquest at the crowded market. Carpets or robes are then spread on her humble palfry—she sits *jambe de sa, jambe de la*—and with considerable grace

guides her animal by the nose. Notwithstanding the peaceableness of his nature, her vanity still enables her to torture him into something like caperings and curvetings.

"It is, however, in the southern part of Africa that the triumph of the ox is complete. His intelligence seems to excel any thing that we have seen of the horse, and he is but little inferior to that most sagacious of all quadrupeds, the dog. Among the Hottentots, these animals are their domestics, and the companions of their pleasures and fatigues; they are both the protectors and servants of the Caffre, and assist him in attending his flocks, and guarding them against every invader. While the sheep are grazing, the faithful backely, as this kind of oxen is called, stands and grazes beside them. Still attentive, however, to the look of its master, the backely flies round the field, obliges the herds of sheep that are straying to keep proper limits, and shows no mercy to robbers who attempt to plunder, nor even to strangers: but it is not the plunderers of the flock alone, but even the enemies of the nation that these backelies are taught to combat. Every army of Hottentots is furnished with a proper herd of these creatures, which are let loose against the enemy. Being thus sent forward, they overturn all before them; they strike down with their horns, and trample under their feet, every one who attempts to oppose them, and thus often procure their masters an easy victory, before their masters have time to strike a blow."

An animal so serviceable is, as may be supposed, not without its reward. The backely lives in the same cottage with its master, and by long habit, gains an affection for him; for in proportion as the man approaches to the brute, so the brute seems to attain even to the same share of human sagacity. The Hottentot and his backely thus mutually assist each other; and when the latter happens to die, a new one is chosen to succeed him, by a council of the old men of the village. The new backely is then joined with one of the veterans of his own kind, from whom he learns art, becomes social and diligent, and is taken for life into human friendship and protection.

"In the Alps, the cattle are the pride of their keepers, who adorn the best of them with an harmonious set of bells, chiming in accordance with the celebrated *ranz des vaches*. The finest black cow is adorned with the largest bell, and the two next in appearance wear smaller ones. Early in the spring, when they are removed to the Alps, or to some change of pasture, he (the owner or herdsman) dresses himself in all his finery, and proceeds along, singing the *ranz des vaches*, followed by three or four goats; next comes the finest cow, adorned with the great bell, and then the other two, with the smaller bells, and these succeeded by the rest of the cattle walking one after another, and having in their rear the bull, with a one-legged milking stool on his horns, while the procession is closed by a sledge bearing the dairy implements.

"It is surprising to see the pride and pleasure with which the cows stalk forth when ornamented with their bells. One would hardly imagine that these animals are sensible of their rank, and affected by vanity and jealousy; and yet if the leading cow is deprived of her honors, she manifests her disgrace, by lowing incessantly, and abstaining from food, and losing condition. The happy rival, on whom the badge of superiority has devolved, becomes the object of her vengeance, and is butted and wounded and persecuted by her in the most furious manner, until she regains her bell, or is removed from the herd."

We give these quotations in order to give those of our readers who have not learned these facts before, some idea, not only of the varieties produced in the same species, by location, treatment and other circumstances, but of the different treatment they receive in different parts of the world, and the

*A leg here and a leg there, or one on each side.

†What a lesson is here given by the poor Hottentot to many of our more knowing countrymen, who may be daily seen lashing and beating their oxen as if they did it for bodily exercise, while the poor suffering animals are going forward at the extent of their natural speed, or perhaps straining with agonizing efforts to start an injudicious load. If there is any one trait in the human character more hateful and atrocious than any other, it is cruelty to dumb animals.

effects produced by such treatment. The writer above quoted goes on to state:

"The breeds of cattle, as they are found in Great Britain, are almost as various as the soil of the different districts, or the fancies of the breeders. They have been very conveniently classed according to the size of the horns. *The long horns*, originally, so far as our country concerned, from Lancashire, much improved by Mr. Bakewell of Leicestershire, and established through the greater part of the midland counties—the *short horns*, originally from East York, improved in Durham, mostly cultivated in the Northern counties, and in Lincolnshire, and many of them found in every part of the Kingdom, where the farmer attends much to dairy, or a large supply of milk is wanted—and the *middle horns*, not derived from a mixture of the two preceding, but a distinct and valuable and beautiful breed, inhabiting principally the north of Devon, the east of the Sussex, Herefordshire, and Gloucestershire: and the cattle of the Scottish and Welsh mountains, of diminished bulk, and somewhat different character. The Alderney, with her *crumpled horn*, is found on the southern coast, and in smaller number, in gentlemen's parks and pleasure grounds every where; while the polled, or *hornless* cattle, prevail in Suffolk and Norfolk, and in Galloway, whence they were first derived.

"These, however, have been intermingled in every possible way. They are found pure only in their native districts.

"The character of each, so far as it can be described, and the relative value for breeding, grazing, the dairy or the plough, will be considered. Much dispute has arisen as to the original breed of British cattle. The battle has been strongly fought between the advocates of the middle and the long horns. The short horns and the polls can have no claim;* the first is evidently of foreign extraction, and the latter, although it has existed in certain districts, from time immemorial, was probably an accidental variety.

"We are evidently much disposed to adjudge the honor to the *middle horns*. The long horns are evidently of Irish extraction, as in due place we shall endeavor to show."

We shall, in our next number, commence with the middle horns or Devonshire breed of cattle, and continue, in that & the succeeding numbers, through all the different breeds of cattle known in England, Wales, Scotland, Ireland, and their adjacent islands, with such information as, we trust, will enable every intelligent farmer to converse understandingly on the subject of each breed.

*To be considered the original breed of British cattle.

Popular Errors in Medicine.

BY AN EDINBURGH PHYSICIAN.

A very common practice in eating such fruit as cherries is to swallow the stones, with the vague notion that these promote digestion. No error can be more fatally absurd. Many cases have occurred where such practices have been the cause of death, and that of a most excruciating nature. One instance is on record of a lady who died in great agony after years of suffering, and the cause was found to be several large balls found in the intestines, accumulated around clusters of cherry-stones. The husks of gooseberries are often swallowed with the idea that they prevent any bad effects from the fruit. On the contrary, they are the most indigestible substance that can be swallowed, and pass the stomach without any change, although they cause excessive irritation, and not unfrequently inflammation of the bowels.

Many people put great faith in the wholesomeness of eating only of one dish at a dinner. They suppose that the mixture of substances prevent easy digestion: They would not eat fish and flesh, fowl and beef, animal food and vegetable. This seems a plausible notion, but daily practice shows its utter absurdity. What dinner sits easier on the stomach than a slice of roast or boiled mutton, and carrots or turnips, and the indispensable potato.—What man ever felt the worse of a cut of cod or turbot followed by a beef-steak, or a slice of roast beef and pudding? In short, a variety of wholesome food does not seem incompatible at meals, if one do not eat too much—here the error lies.

It is a common practice with bathers, after having walked on a hot day to the sea-side, to sit on the

cold damp rocks till they are cool before going into the water. This is quite erroneous. Never go into the water if over-fatigued, and after profuse and long-continued perspiration, but always prefer plunging in while warm, strong and vigorous, and even with the first drops of perspiration on your brow. There is no fear of sudden transitions from heat to cold being fatal. Many nations run from the hot bath, and plunge naked into the snow. What is to be feared is sudden cold after exhaustion of the body, and while the animal powers are not sufficient to produce a reaction or recovery of the animal heat.

There is a favorite fancy of rendering infants and farther advanced children hardy and strong, by plunging them into cold water. This will certainly not prevent strong infants from growing stronger, but it will and often does kill three children out of every five. Infants always thrive best with moderate warmth and a milk-warm bath. The same rule applies to the clothing of infants and children. No child should have so light clothing as to make it feel the effects of cold—warm materials, loose and wide made clothing, and exercise, are all indispensable for the health of little ones. But, above all things, their heads should be kept cool, and generally uncovered.

Many people so laud early rising as would lead one to suppose that sleep was one of those lazy, sluggish and bad practices, that the sooner the custom was abolished the better. Sleep is as necessary to man as food, and as some do with one third of the food that others absolutely require, so five hours' sleep is amply sufficient for one, while another requires seven or eight hours. Some men cannot by any possibility sleep more than four or five hours in the 24; and therefore, true to the inherent selfishness of human nature, they abuse all who sleep longer. No man should be taunted for sleeping eight hours if he can.

There is a common prejudice in the country, that old women, farriers, and professed bone setters, are the only persons fit to prescribe for all sprains, dislocations, and broken bones. Are these subjects less likely to be understood by an anatomist and regularly educated man, than the most difficult and intricate diseases which he daily treats with success? What becomes of all such patients in large cities and hospitals, where a regular surgeon superintends their cure? Have we so many stiff joints and deformed and useless limbs as among the patients of the empiric bone setter?

Many people do not eat salt with their food, and the fair sex have a notion that this substance darkens the complexion. Salt seems essential for the health of every human being, more especially in moist climates such as ours. Without salt, the body becomes infected with intestinal worms. The case of a lady is mentioned in a medical journal, who had a natural antipathy to salt, and never used it in her food; the consequence was, she became dreadfully infested with these animals. A punishment once existed in Holland, by which criminals were denied the use of salt; the same consequences followed with these wretched beings. We rather think a prejudice exists with some of giving little or no salt to children. No practice can be more absurd.

One great cause of reluctance to medicine among the ignorant, is the idea, that many, if not all of the powders and potions, are made from human bones, and other parts of the body. In the present day no such thing exists; but yet nothing can better exemplify the saying, "that popular prejudices are the cast-off-cloths of philosophers, in which the rabble dress themselves," than the fact that even the great Lord Bacon believed in amulets; and Boyle seriously recommends the thigh bone of an executed criminal as a powerful remedy in dysentery. Two thirds of the medicines in common use are dried roots, or leaves, or fruits, or gums of vegetables, reduced to powder, or infused water or spirit of wine; the other third are salts, obtained from sea-water, from the waters of mineral springs, from burnt seaweed or land vegetables, and from various preparations of the metals. Many a child has turned with horror and disgust from a common emetic powder, under the false conception that it was human liver pounded, when he would have even cheerfully have taken off the nauseating draught had he been told that it was nothing more than the clean-scraped roots of a beautiful little flowering plant, that grows in warm countries, called *Ipecacacum*. It is not an uncommon observation, and a sort of taunt too, to the medical man, that his drugs are all disagreeable

to the palate. People do not reflect that this a wise provision of nature. What, for instance, would be the consequence if the fruit whose pulp bears the bitter purging colocynth, were as inviting to the taste as a pine-apple? Or how could the ignorant be restrained from every day poisoning themselves, if fox-glove, hemlock, or henbane, bore sweet and enticing fruits?

Another general reproach among the uninformed, is, that, in the present day, physicians disdain to employ in their prescriptions the native plants of this country. This reproach is quite unfounded; there is never a day that some one of our native vegetables is not prescribed; but undoubtedly, some of our most active and most valuable medicines can only be procured from hotter climates.—*Chambers Ed. Journal.*

From the Scientific Tracts and Family Lyceum.

Mechanism.

Perhaps no specimens of mechanism are more curious or useful than those designed to mark the flight of time. The first efforts of ancient skill in this respect were rude and imperfect. In the days of Ahas, king of Judea, a diagram described upon the steps of his palace, marked the advance of the by the shade of some neighboring objects passing over its surface. This dial received about two hundred years afterwards the addition of a gnomon, or hand, by Anaximenes, at Sparta. The Romans for a long time distinguished their day by the rising and setting of the sun. The first division was the obvious one of noon; at the appearance of the sun between two particular points in the forum, this period was announced in their courts by a public crier. The first dial used at Rome was brought from Catania, during the first Punic war, and placed in the forum on a pillar near the rostrum. This although imperfect in its construction, remained in use among the Romans for ninety-nine years.

About this time, Scipio Nasica, a Roman, invented the Horologe, or a large vessel which measured time by the trickling of water through it. This had the advantage of the Dial, it being capable of use in the night, and cloudy weather. Notwithstanding the many inconveniences of this instrument, it was placed under cover by Scipio and answered the purpose of a public clock. Both the Dial and Horologe were introduced into Britain by Cæsar, and used there for a long time successfully.

The Dial, or day-piece, and the horarium or hour-glass, appear to be among the earliest time-pieces mentioned in history.

The usual chronometers now in use, are clocks and watches; the former are such as show the parts of time; the latter such as published it by striking; though the name *watch* is commonly appropriated to pocket-clocks, and *clocks* to larger machines whether they strike or not.

CELEBRATED CLOCKS.

I. Among clocks celebrated for their superior and wonderful mechanism is that of Strasburgh. The following is a description of one.

"At Strasburgh there is a clock of all others the most famous, invented by Conradus Dasepundius in the year 1571. Before this clock stands a globe on the ground, showing the motions of the heavens, stars, and planets. The heavens are carried about by the first mover, in twenty-four hours. Saturn by his proper motion is carried about in 30 years; Jupiter in 12; Mars in 2; the sun, Mercury, and Venus in 1 year; and the Moon in 1 month. In the clock itself there are two tables on the right and left hand, showing the eclipses of the Sun and Moon from the year 1573 to the year 1624. The third table in the middle, is divided into three parts. In the first part the statues of Appollo and Diana show the course of the year and the day thereof, being carried about in one year; the second part shows the year of our Lord and the equinoctial days, the hours of each day and the minutes of each hour, Easter day and all other feasts, and the Dominical letter. The third part has the Geography of all Germany and particularly Strasburgh, and the names of the inventor and all the workmen. In the middle frame of the clock is an astrolabe, showing the sign in which each planet is, every day; and there are the statues of the seven planets, upon a round piece of iron lying flat; so that every day the planet that rules the day comes forth, the rest being hid within the frames, till they come out by course in their day; as the sun upon Sunday, and

some for all the week. There is also a terrestrial globe on which shows the quarter, and half-hour and the minutes. There is also the skull of a dead man, and the statues of two boys, whereof one turns the hour-glass, when the clock has struck, the other puts forth the rod in his hand at each stroke of the clock. Moreover there are statues of Spring, Summer, Autumn, and Winter, and many observations of the moon. In the upper part of the clock are the statues of four old men, who strike the quarter hour; the statue of Death comes out at each quarter to strike, but is driven back by the statue of Christ with a spear in his hand for three quarters, but in the fourth quarter that of Christ goes back, and that of Death strikes the hour with a bone in his hand, and then the chimes sound. On the top of the clock is an image of a cock which twice in the day crows aloud and claps his wings. Besides this clock is decked with many rare pictures, and being on the inside of the church, carries another frame to the outside of the walls, wherein the hours of the sun, the courses of the moon, the length of the day, and such other things are set down with great art."

2. In the Cathedral of Lyons in France, may be seen a very famous clock. It is placed in one of the aisles near the choir. On the top of the clock, is a cock, which every three hours claps his wings and crows three times. At a certain time the Virgin Mary and the angel Gabriel issue out of two doors, meet and salute each other. At the same time a dove representing the Holy Ghost descends and rests upon the head of Mary. After these figures have retired, a venerable old man makes his appearance, lifting up his hands as in the act of pronouncing a parting blessing. This clock has probably suffered in some measure from the effects of time, yet by the care and attention of those under whose care it is, its movements are comparatively regular and perfect. Nicholas Lipp, a native of Basil, Switzerland, was the inventor, and finished it in 1598, when he was about thirty years of age. He was engaged by the magistrates of Lyons at a suitable compensation to reside in the city in order personally to repair and perfect his work.

3. In the Cathedral of Lunden, Sweden is a clock from which issues every hour, two horsemen who have a spirited encounter. At the same time a door opens and discovers the Virgin Mary sitting with the infant Jesus in her arms, and the wise men presenting their various gifts. Maria is heard during the time of the procession. The month, day, and festival throughout the year are also shown.

4. Two wonderful clocks were made a short time since in the form of chariots, by an English artist, and sent to the Emperor of China by the East India Company as a present. The following is a description. "The clocks are in the form of chariots, in which are placed in a fine attitude a lady, leaning her right hand upon a part of the chariot; under which is a clock of curious workmanship, a little larger than a shilling, that strikes and repeats and goes eight days. Upon her finger sits a bird finely moddled, and set with diamonds and rubies, with its wings expanded in a flying posture, and actually flutters for a considerable time, on touching a diamond button below it. The body of the bird (which contains a part of the wheels that in a manner give life to it) is not the bigness of the sixteenth part of an inch. The lady holds in her hand a gold tube, not much thicker than a large pin, on the top of which is a small round box, to which a circular ornament, set with diamonds, not larger than a sixpence, is attached, which goes round three hours in a constant regular motion. Over the lady's head, supported by a small fluted pillar, no bigger than a quill, are two umbrellas, under the largest of which a bell is fixed at a considerable distance from the clock, and seeming to have no connection with it; but from which communication is secretly conveyed to a hammer, that regularly strikes the hour, and repeats the same at pleasure by touching a diamond button fixed to the clock below. At the feet of the lady is a gold dog, before which, from the point of the chariot, are two birds placed on spiral springs, the wings and feathers of which are set with stones of various colors, and appear as if flying away with the chariot, which is so contrived that by another secret motion it can be made to run in a straight, circular, or any other direction. A boy that lays hold of the chariot behind, seems also to push it forward. Above the umbrellas are flowers and ornaments of precious stones, and it terminates with a flying dragon set in the same manner. The whole

is of gold most curiously executed, and embellished with rubies and stones."

Summary.

Kennebec Mill-Dam Company.

It gives us much pleasure to state that the enterprising Stockholders of this Corporation have commenced their operations with a determined zeal, which argues well for the success of the great work they have undertaken. Assessments to the amount of \$30,000 have been laid—Col. Boardman, whose reputation as a first rate practical Engineer is as high as that of any man in New England, has been engaged to superintend the works. Mr. A. Larnard of this town has undertaken the general agency of the Company, and has entered upon his duties with the activity which, together with his sound judgment and habits of business, render him perfectly competent to the important duties of the situation. A large number of men are already at work upon the grounds of the Company, quarrying stone, making roads, erecting buildings, &c. A black-smith's shop is already finished—a carpenter's shop is going up, and two or three boarding houses, we understand, will be commenced immediately. The Stockholders here have the greatest confidence in the success of the project and the profit of their investment, and will spare no trouble or expense to make the Dam strong and permanent. With a water power as great as any one in New England; with good navigation almost to the foot of the Dam; facilities for procuring lumber, granite and other building materials, not surpassed by those of any other place; and with the extensive and fertile agricultural country of the Kennebec, to supply the wants of the operatives connected with a manufacturing establishment, we see no reason to doubt that the investment will be exceedingly profitable to the Stockholders, as well as highly beneficial to Augusta and the surrounding country.—*Aug. Age.*

The Plaster Mills at Lubec.—These mills are situated on Morton's Cove, and are distant from the village of Lubec about one mile by water and three miles by land. The Cove affords safe and commodious anchorage, and vessels drawing 15 feet of water can go up to the mills. The building devoted to the grinding of the plaster is 3 stories high, 80 feet long, and 40 feet wide, in the two upper stories while the lower floor has an increased width of 24 feet. Adjoining this, is a building used for the storing of the manufactured article, which is of ample dimensions. To the east of these, a wharf runs out into the centre of the Cove, 250 feet long, and 50 wide, and capable of holding 6,000 tons of plaster. From this wharf there is a railroad, upon which the plaster is drawn by water power to the third story of the large building, where it is thrown into "crackers" which prepare it for grinding. In passing through the crackers it falls into hoppers in the second story and is ground. Thence it passes into troughs in the lower story, there to be weighed, packed in quarter ton casks, and rolled away to the storing house for shipment. Up to its reception in the storing house, and indeed until it is on ship-board, but little human labor is required. At present there are set five pair of crackers and ten pair of stones, though the building has ample room to accommodate about double the number of both. But it is presumed no increase will be necessary.

Law of Printers.—We learn from a gentleman who was present, that in the case of Arnolds vs. Clifford, tried at Newport last week, Judge Story, upon an incidental point, stated that a promise on the part of the writer of a libel to indemnify the printer of it, against any damage he might sustain for printing, could not be enforced. Even if a bond were taken, that would be void.—*N. Y. Journal Com.*

Rail Road from Bangor to Levant. An incorporation was obtained several years since, for the purpose of building a Rail Road from this place to Williamsburg. We understand that the right of the heirs of the late Moses Greenleaf, Esq., who held most of the stock, has been bought by those who are determined to push forward the object to Levant and all that is now wanting is to satisfy capitalists that it will be good property, and the money to construct it may be had forthwith. The friends of the project are sanguine that they can do this, from a fair estimate of the present and anticipated trans-

portation and travel. At Levant are already in operation a good number of saw mills, clapboard mills, &c., and many more erecting and contemplated there and in the vicinity; the most part of the lumber, produce, &c. of the western section of the County comes here through Levant Village; a daily stage and several tri-weekly, semi-weekly, and weekly stages run to and through that town, and from these and other facilities and resources a basis is established by those concerned, upon which they think it not very visionary that a rail road may be made and handsomely supported. Enterprise and capital surmount great obstacles in the accomplishment of desired objects.—*Eastern Republican.*

Tornados.—Three hours after the tornado at New Brunswick, on Friday last, a violent thunder-storm and whirlwind swept over Little Falls, about five miles west of Patterson, on the Passaic. Several orchards, sheds, &c. were prostrated in its course. One house, in which there were twelve persons, was demolished, but all of them were taken uninjured from the ruins. On the same day, between five and six in the afternoon, a violent whirlwind, rising near the Delaware, swept over the township of Knowlton, demolishing many buildings and uprooting trees. Its ravages were confined to a space of about six miles in length, by half a mile in breadth.

Crimes Punishable with Death.—In the United States there are nine crimes punishable with death. The first is treason; the second murder; the third rape; the fourth arson; the fifth burning a ship of war of the U. S.; the sixth the robbery of the mail—[this is not usually capital, but a second offence, or an attack upon the conductors of the mail with dangerous weapons, subjects the criminal to death, and the penalty has been in numerous instances inflicted]—the seventh casting away ships with intent to defraud the owners; the eighth rescuing a prisoner, while going to, or from execution; and the ninth and last, is the crime of piracy.

Pills.—Twenty hands are constantly employed at Raleigh, N. C., in making Beckwith's Pills; they turn out 40,000 a day! My eyes what a lot!

Great Project.—It is in contemplation to connect the cities of New Orleans and Natchez, by a rail road running nearly parallel with the Mississippi.

Drunkenness.—In the city of Mexico, tumbrils are sent round by the police to take up those who are drunk. They are kept a night, and made to work in the streets three days with a ring round their ankle.

We have seen within a few days specimens of yellow ochre and soap stone found in our neighborhood, which appear to be of good quality and free of foreign substances. We are also told of a bed of fuller's earth, in this county, and strong geological indications of a coal mine, not far hence. Appearances in favor of coal are so striking and agree so well with professor Silliman's remarks on coal, that the owner of the land and others are determined to dig for it, sanguine in the belief of finding an extensive bed of coal. Success to them. The Bangor Whig states that a bed of porcelain clay has been discovered near the village of Bluehill, which has been analyzed and found to contain the requisite properties for the manufacture of fine ware.

Belfast Advocate.

An Ourang Outang.—In the Schooner Susan Elizabeth, Capt. Lawlin which arrived on Monday from the river Gabon West Coast of Africa, came passenger a male Ourang Outang, which has been purchased by Reuben Peale for exhibition in his Museum. This animal is about eighteen months old, a little over two feet in height, perfectly tame, and its actions are much after those of a young child. Its face resembles that of an aged negro, the other part of the head and the whole body is covered with a thick coat of hair. We understand that this is the only living Ourang Outang in this country, and it is certainly a great curiosity and well worth seeing.—*N. Y. Com. Adv.*

Wool.—According to the Washington (Pa.) Reporter, the wool crops of that county may be fairly estimated at 600,000 lbs. which at 55 cents, the average price paid this season, will amount to a pretty handsome sum.

Marriages.

In Whitefield, Mr. Alexander Erskine to Miss Hannah Dow.
In Jefferson, Mr. Jeremy Wyman, of Augusta, to Miss Maria Murphy.
In Patricktown Plantation, Mr. John Colby to Miss Susan Heath.

Deaths.

In Leeds, May 20, Mr. Isaac Boothby, aged about 61.
In Waldoboro', Mr. Joseph Vinal, aged 49.
In Wiscasset, Mr. Moses Hilton, aged 59.
In Kennebunk, Mr. Ebenezer Shackley, aged 75.
Mrs. Hannah B. Greenough, aged 32.

BRIGHTON MARKET.—MONDAY JUNE 22.

Reported for the Boston Patriot.

At Market, 175 Beef Cattle, 15 pairs Working Oxen, 30 Cows and Calves, 840 Sheep and Lambs and 150 Swine. 10 Beef Cattle of the first quality unsold.

PRICES. Beef Cattle—In consequence of the limited number at market, prices advanced considerably, as will be perceived our quotations, viz: a few pair very fine at 43s 6d a 45s; prime at 39 a 42; good 33 a 33 a 37 6d; thin at 38 6d a 33s.

Working Oxen—Sales 35, 40, 55, 65, 70 and \$80; some of which were very ordinary.

Cows and Calves—Sales at \$16, 20, 24, 27 50, 33, 36, 40 and 50.

Sheep and Lambs—Lots were taken at 13s 6d, \$15 and 16s 6d; Wethers at 21s, 22s 6d, 25s and 26s 6d.

Swine—Most of those at market were small pig Shoats, and were retailed at 5 1-2 a 6 for sows, and 6 1-2 a 7 for barrows; pigs 8 a 10.

Fourth of July.

An Address by the Rev. Mr. Tappan of Augusta, may be expected before the Winthrop Anti-Slavery Society, at 11 o'clock A. M. in the Rev. Mr. Thurston's Meeting House. At the same place at 2 o'clock P. M. an Address by the Rev. Mr. Thurston, before the Winthrop Moral Reform Society. At half past 2 o'clock the adjourned annual meeting of the Temperance Society for the choice of officers will be held at the same place; and at 4 o'clock P. M. an Address by Samuel P. Benson, Esq. before the Winthrop and Winthrop Union Temperance Societies.

At a Court of Probate, held at Augusta, on the last Monday of June, A. D. 1835, within and for the County of Kennebec.

A certain instrument purporting to be the last will and testament of ISAAC BOOTHBY, late of Leeds, in said County, deceased, having been presented by STEPHEN BOOTHBY the Executor therein named for Probate:

Ordered, That the said Executor give notice to all persons interested, by causing a copy of this order to be published in the Maine Farmer, printed at Winthrop, in said County, three weeks successively, that they may appear at a Probate Court to be held at Augusta, in in said County on the last Monday of July next, at ten o'clock in the forenoon, and shew cause, if any they have, why the said instrument should not be proved, approved, and allowed as the last will and testament of the said deceased.

H. W. FULLER, Judge.

Attest: GEO. ROBINSON, Register.

A true copy. Attest: GEO. ROBINSON, Register.

Wool! Wool!

Cash paid for Wool by
SIMEON HEARSEY,
No. 3, Merchant's Row, Hallowell.
June 9, 1835.

Wool—Cash.

JOSEPH G. MOODY will pay Cash and the highest market price for WOOL.
Augusta, Water Street, June 1, 1835. tf

Wanted Immediately,

A good MAN to work on a farm.
A. BILCHER.

Wanted.

The subscriber wishes to hire a good hand from one to two months in haying season.

TRUXTON WOOD.

Palm Leaf

For sale by P. BENSON, Jr. & Co.

Cash for Wool.

40,000 lbs. of Wool wanted,
for which a good price will be paid by
P. BENSON, Jr. & Co.

Moses Adams,

Deputy Sheriff and Coroner.—Greene, Kennebec County, Maine.

Fisk & Hinkley's**NEW PATENT BRICK MACHINE.**

For sale by the subscriber at East Livermore, or the following agents—K. G. Robinson, Hallowell; William Wade, Augusta; F. F. Haines, East Livermore; Daniel Hobbs, Portland; John Miller, Warren; Kidder & Tarball, Boston; Col. Cobb, Gray; Moses Emery, Saco; Nathan Elden, Buxton; Reuben R. Dunn, Poland; Joseph Haskell, Monmouth; E. McLellan, Gardiner, and William Reed of Norway. Said machines are warranted to answer well the purpose for which they are intended.

JOB HASKELL.

June 4, 1835.

4m18

List of Letters

Remaining in the Post Office at Winthrop, July 1, 1835.

Barnard Adams	Charity King
Horatio G. Allen	Hebrop Luce
Alex'r Belcher, Esq.	Mr. J. May
William Buswell	Emily Nelson
Hannah H. Berry	Sarah Nelson
Reubin Berry	Thos. S. Pullen
Lydia Cushing	Hoyce Parlin
Angus Chute	Charles Pinkham
Geo. H. Collins	Horatio Packard
Rhoda Follett	J. A. Pitts
Nathan Foster	J. Richards
Wadsworth Foster	Botham Shaw
Lonzena Foster	Susan Sears
Jesse L. Fairbanks	Emily Stanley
Col. J. Fairbanks	Samuel B. Shaw
Capt. John Fairbanks	Richard Stewart
Betsy Freeman	Eliza Ann Smith
Rev. Samuel Fogg (?)	Eliza Williams
J. & J. Glidden	Samuel Wood
Luther S. Gibson	Elias Whiting (2)
Samuel Harvey	Charles A. Wallace
Myanda Hathaway	Sidney Woods
Thos. Hutchinson	Mr. Woodman, Wagon
Deborah M. Johnson (2)	Maker.
Dr. C. Knapp	Amos Woodward
Eliza M. Kibball	

GEO. W. STANLEY, Post Master.

Silk Hats.

SILK HATS manufactured and sold by THOMAS NEWMAN, at his Hat Factory, opposite J. G. W. Coddge's Hotel, Winthrop.

No Mistake.

Winthrop, June 10, 1835.

For Sale.

To be sold on the most liberal terms the FARM now owned by JOHN STANLEY & SON, in Readfield, Maine. No recommendations are necessary. It cannot but suit a good farmer. Call and see—Delays are dangerous. For further particulars enquire of the subscriber on the premises.

JOHN STANLEY.

Readfield, June 16, 1835.

A Small Farm For Sale.

Will positively be sold at Public Auction, on the premises, a neat establishment for a mechanic, consisting of eight acres of good land, with a new dwelling house, barn, &c. eligibly situated in East Livermore, on the sixth day of July next, at two o'clock in the afternoon. A good title will be given. Terms of payment liberal, and will be made known on the day of sale. For further particulars enquire of the subscriber at East Livermore Corner, or of J. W. Emerson on the premises.

F. F. HAINES.

East Livermore, June 1, 1835.

Notice.

All demands due me for sawing in the Factory Saw Mill for 1834 must be paid by the 6th day of July or they will be put in suit. Before that time they can be settled without cost at the office of S. P. BENSON, Esq. in Winthrop.

WM. C. FULLER.

June 20, 1835.

Double Dasher Churn.

I, the subscriber of Greene, hereby give notice that I have lately invented a machine for churning, and as it met the approbation of the public generally, I was induced to take out Letters Patent for the same. I have therefore secured a right, and shall be prepared to vend by Counties, towns or individuals after the 25th day of the present month. I presume I could have procured a numerous catalogue of names to the following Certificate, but considered it unnecessary, as the machine will recommend itself upon examination.

Reference may be had of Joseph M. Richardson or the subscriber of Greene.

WILLIAM A. HERRICK.

Greene, June 20th, 1835.

We, the subscribers, having examined Mr. William H. Herrick's Double Dasher Churn, and seen it in operation, do hereby certify, that in our opinion it is the greatest improvement we have ever yet seen in churning. It is so constructed that a child five or six years of age can churn with the greatest ease. We therefore cheerfully recommend it to the public as a profitable churn.

William Haskell,	Jabez Pratt,
Nathaniel Harris,	Ezekiel Stetson,
Elijah Barrell,	John Adams,
Anslew Parker,	John Harris,
J. C. Harvey,	Silas Richardson,
Jacob Kimball	John Harris, 2d.
Lewis Beals,	

Greene, June 20th, 1835.

3w.

Celebrated Horse Powder.

THE various diseases to which the HORSE is subject, have occasioned many remedies to be offered to the public, under different forms with high ecomiums. Some of these are injurious, others at best, of little use. A judicious and useful combination has long been desired. This is recommended in the following cases:

For Horses foundered by eating to excess, or drinking cold water when warm, to such as discover any symptoms of Glanders, the Distemper, Coughs and Yellow Water, or are exposed to infection by being with other Horses affected with these complaints, and in all cases attended with feverish symptoms, sluggishness, loss of appetite or depression of spirits.

The dose for a sick Horse is one table-spoonful night and morning, mixed with a light mess of short feed, or made into a drench: when intended to keep a Horse in health, a table-spoonful once a week will be sufficient, and at the same time a table-spoonful of Salts in his food.

Prepared and sold by JAMES BOWMAN, GARDINER, Maine.

We the undersigned having examined the Recipe for making the Horse Powder prepared by James Bowman of Gardiner, Me., do not hesitate to say it is a scientific combination, and from experience and observation we are persuaded to say that it is a good preparation for many diseases of Horses for which it is recommended.

D. NEAL,

D. H. MIRICK.

We the subscribers having made use of the Horse Powders prepared by James Bowman, Gardiner, Maine, most cheerfully recommend them to the public for Distemper and Coughs.

CHARLES SAGER,	} Gardiner.
A. T. PERKINS,	
J. D. GARDINER.	
SAMUEL HODGDON,	Pittston.
BENJ. HODGES,	} Augusta.
JOHN H. ELDRIDGE	

— A L S O —

THE Genuine "ROLLINS' IMPROVED LINIMENT" for Horses and Oxen, and even for Persons afflicted with Rheumatism, Strains, Sprains or Chilblains—it is not second to any other Liniment, British Oil or Opodeldoc now in use. tf

Poetry.

From the Free Press & Advocate.

Temperance Hymn.

O Thou! Inspire our thoughts above,
To raise a grateful song to thee;
Fill all our hearts with zealous love;
Thy smiling mercies may we see!

By Him who guides the rolling year,
With beauty crowns the smiling spring,
We're saved from plague's terrific fear,
Protected by his spreading wing.

While softening show'rs from heav'n descend,
Sweet songsters hail the rising day,
Our hearts awake, the widow's friend,
The orphan's tears we'll wipe away.

May true devotion rise to Thee,
For fallen man temptation's stain;
Like "chosen vessels" may we be,
The lost and wandering to reclaim.

Behold that sacred promise sure,
(While Autumn's bounties wide expand;) Early then we our seed secure—
At eve will not withhold our hands.

Shall worth, shall virtue's sacred ties,
Be into ruin's vortex hurled?
Where reason wounded, bleeding, lies,
Our listing banners be unfurled;

Fair freedom's sons, bound down so long
Fell sorrow's chains disdain to wear,
And hisping babes our gates shall throng,
On artless lips our names shall bear.

Through life then, wisdom be our guide,
In all her pleasant ways be led,
Where peaceful rivers smoothly glide,
And bleating flocks their margins tread.

Loved peace her olive emblem shows,
Our virtuous fair unrivalled stand,
Wild deserts blossom like the rose—
Our sons possess a happy land. ALPHA BETA.
Livermore, May, 1835.

Union,—A National Song.

AIR—Scots wha hae wi' Wallace bled,

Hail, our country's natal morn!
Hail, our spreading kindred born,
Hail, thou banner not yet torn,
Waving o'er the free!
While, this day, in festal throng,
Millions swell the patriot song,
Shall not we thy notes prolong,
Hallow'd Jubilee?

Who would sever Freedom's shrine?
Who would draw the invidious line?
Though, by birth, one spot be mine,
Dear is all the rest:—

Dear to me the South's fair land,
Dear, the central Mountain-band,
Dear, New England's rocky strand,
Dear the prairied West.

By our alters, pure and free,
By our Law's deep-rooted tree,
By the past's dread memory,
By our WASHINGTON;
By our common parent tongue,
By our hopes, bright, buoyant, young,
By the tie of Country strong—
We will still be ONE.

Father's! have ye bled in vain?
Ages! must we droop again?
MAKER! shall we rashly stain
Blessings sent by THEE?
No! receive our solemn vow,
While before thy throne we bow,
Ever to maintain, as now,
"UNION—LIBERTY!"

Miscellany.

From Waldie's Circulating Library.

Conversation.

One of the greatest pleasures of life is conversation, and the pleasures of conversation are of course enhanced by every increase of knowledge. Not

that we should generally meet together to talk of alikies or angles, or to add to our stock of history or philology; though a little of these is no bad ingredient in conversation. But, let the subject be what it may, there is always a prodigious difference between the conversation of those who have been well educated, and those who have not enjoyed this advantage. Education gives fecundity of thought, quickness, vigor, fancy, words, images, and illustration. It decorates common things, and gives the power of trifling, without being undignified or absurd. Can all this be derived from a piano-forte, a *pas seul*, and a little Italian? No. But give to women in early life something to acquire of sufficient interest and importance to command the application of their mature faculties; and to excite their perseverance in future life; teach them that happiness is to be derived from the acquisition of knowledge, as well as the gratification of vanity; and you will raise up a much more formidable barrier against dissipation, than a host of invectives and exhortations can supply. Though it were denied that the acquisition of serious knowledge is of itself important to women, still it prevents a taste for silly and pernicious works of imagination; and in lieu of that eagerness for emotion and adventure, books of that sort inspire, promotes a calm and steady temperament of mind. If you educate women to attend to dignified and important subjects, you are multiplying beyond measure the chances of human improvement, by preparing those early impressions, which always come from the mother; and which in a great majority of instances are quite decisive of character and genius. Nor is it only in the business of education that women would influence the destiny of men; if women knew more men would know more; for ignorance in them would be shameful, and it would be the fashion to be well instructed.

The education of women improves the stock of national talents, and employs more minds for the instruction of the people; it increases the pleasures of society by multiplying the two topics upon which the two sexes can take a common interest: and makes marriage an intercourse of the intellect as well as of the affections, by giving dignity and importance to the female character.

The education of women also favors public morals; it provides for every season of life, as well as for health and youth, and leaves a woman, when stricken by the hand of time, not as she often is, destitute of every thing and neglected by all, but with the power and attractions of intelligence, diffusing the elegant pleasures of polite literature, and receiving the just homage of learned and accomplished men. Among men of sense and liberal politeness, a woman who has successfully cultivated her mind, without diminishing the gentleness and propriety of her manners, is always sure to meet with respect & attention bordering on enthusiasm.

SILK HATS

Manufactured and for sale, wholesale and retail, at

J. HOOPER'S

Fashionable Hat Store,

Water Street, Augusta, Me.

ALSO—A large assortment of DRAB HATS of every description and color, together with a prime assortment of Black, Beaver and Muskrat Hats, for gentlemen and youth.

ALSO—CLOTH CAPS, new Spring style and a large assortment. All of which will be sold on such terms as cannot fail to suit purchasers.

Please call and examine before purchasing elsewhere.

Augusta, April 20, 1835.

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WINTHROP

Silk Hat Establishment.

THE subscribers would respectfully inform the public that they have recently commenced the manufacture of SILK HATS, at the old Stand where purchasers can be furnished with a good article, warranted. They will make to order every Shape, Size and Colour, which is desired.

They also continue to keep as usual a large stock of FUR HATS of every description, wholesale and retail.

N. B. They will pay cash for all kinds of Hatt-ing and Shipping furs, and for Wool Skins.

CARR & SHAW.

Winthrop, April, 1835.

Wing & Deering.

Wholesale and Retail Dealers in

BOOTS, SHOES, STOCK, LASTS AND FINDING.

HAVE recently received from Boston and some of the best manufacturing establishments in the N. E. States, a large and well selected stock of gents, ladies, boys, Misses and children's boots, shoes and pumps, some of which will be named here:

Gents fine calfskin, goatskin, horseskin, cordevan boots; do calfskin, neatsleather, shaving, buckskin and cowhide Shoes of all kinds; gents fine kid Pumps of most all descriptions; do do horseskin do; sailors neatsleather do, a good strong article.

Ladies French Slippers of various colors; do English kid do; do imitation French Morocco Slippers; do do do Kid do and kid walking Slippers; Ladies Russia Ties, a new and splendid article; do spring heel kid slippers of different kinds; do heel do do; do sp'g heel cloth slippers; do R. Round kid do; do do do cloth do; do wide strapped calfskin, neatsleather; Morocco, and Kid Shoes; do leather slippers of different kinds; Misses kid and cloth shoes of various kinds and forms; do leather do of various kinds and forms; boys thin Shoes; do thick do; do do pumps; childrens leather booties and anclities; do morocco do do do; do do and leather pumps.

STOCK & FINDINGS.

Morocco Skins; Kid do; Curried Goat do; white linen do; yellow do; blue do; a lot of heavy Sole Leather; No. 10 green hemp thread; C 1 coarse do do; No. 3 half bleached do; 12 do do do; find stitching do half bleached and yellow; Black-ball, Nails, Calloons, Cord, Braids &c. &c.

TOOLS & LASTS.

Woodward colts, Green's do; Pegcutters, Pin-cers, Hammers, Jiggers, Shoulder sticks, Randfiles, Rasps, Punches, shoulder irons, Beads, Boot keys, shoe knippers, do knives, Heminway's awls, sand-stones, stams, fore part irons.

Mens R. and L. block and low lasts; do Stogee do; Ladies do of all kinds; boys thin shoe lasts; Misses and childrens of different forms; boottrees with from one to five feet, &c. &c.

ALSO—Gents, Ladies and Misses India Rubbers of an excellent quality.

All the above articles will be sold wholesale or retail at reasonable prices for cash or good paper.

Augusta, May 20, 1835.

Notice.

THE demands of COLE & CRAIG, COLE & STURTEVANT, SAMUEL WEBB, and MARK FISHER, are left with the subscriber for collection. All persons indebted to either of said firms or individuals, on Book or by note, for debts contracted while they were in business in this place, would do well to adjust the same without delay, for this is the last call of this kind they will receive.

SAMUEL P. BENSON.

Winthrop Village, April 28, 1835.

Samuel P. Benson,

Attorney and Counsellor at Law,

will give faithful attention to all business entrusted to his care.

Hard Ware Store.

THOMAS B. BROOKS, corner of Winthrop and Front Streets, HALLOWELL—Keeps constantly for sale a large and extensive assortment of all descriptions of Hard Ware Goods, Saddlery and Cutlery, which being principally imported by him, will be sold at low and reasonable prices, either at wholesale or retail.

ALSO—Cut Nails, Spikes and Brads—Window Glass of common and extra sizes—Sheet Lead and Sheet Zinc, a cheap and excellent article for roofs—Iron Hollow Ware—Brass Kettles and Fire Pots—Mill and cross cut Saws—Joiners' Tools—House and Furniture Trimmings, &c. &c.

ALSO—75 tons Iron and Steel, making a complete assortment of all kinds usually wanted in this market.

Me, 1835.

2mtn24.

Mulberry Trees.

The subscriber has for sale 3000 Mulberry Trees, from two to four years old.

JOHN T. RICHARDSON.

Winthrop, May 4, 1835.